

History of Motion Picture Industry

By Beatriz Michelena



I never before wrote a history, and now, that I am seriously about it, I am amazed and almost half bewildered at the case it leads one. First of all I consulted people, who should know the accepted method of doing the thing, and they told me that I must sift the matter to its "original sources." With a hazy idea of what that meant, I plunged at it hopefully, but for days since have found it almost an endless job. I have sifted and narrowed and contracted, hoping always to arrive at the problem's geometrical point, on and above which its whole superstructure is reared, but am as yet not sure that I have found it—will probably be uncertain about it to the very end.

Can I any where put my finger down and say this is the thing—at this small point the motion picture industry begins? What, after all, is an "original source"? If instead of motion pictures, I were talking about the eight-hour law, which congress passed and President Wilson signed, and its original source, would I have gone far enough when I arrived at the tea kettle of boiling water, which begot an idea in curious James Watt's head, which begot the steam engine, which begot the railways, which begot a threatened railway employees' strike, or which I have to go further still and chase the railways, which begot a threatened railway employee's strike, or which I have to go further still and chase the metal, from which that tea kettle was made, to its native mountain ribs and those native mountain ribs on back to what?

Whatever the answer, you can see that it is a nice question to raise in way of introduction. If it be a matter of going back and back, I suppose, to find the original source of the motion picture industry, I would have to trace the pedigree of a certain horse back through all its ancestry, and through all the stages of evolution or creating or whatever it is that developed a mane and tail and four good trotting legs, and when, in doing it I had come to the end of my rope, so to speak, I would be justified in saying that I had the original source of motion pictures, insofar as it was humanly possible to find it. However, with my readers' permission, I'll not be so exhaustive as all this. It was a similar small job that kept a scientist by the name of Darwin busy most of his life time.

The point of all my observations above, other than their attempt to give my history an impressive introduction, lies in the fact that before motion pictures there was a horse, and this particular horse stood in relation to motion pictures about the same as Darwin, just mentioned, tells us the monkey stood to the human race. Both stepped in rather prominently somewhere down on their respective scales of original sources.

My history, then, begins with a horse.

It was not a trick horse, nor a piebald horse, nor a cow pony. It was not such a horse at all as is usually found in the stables of a motion picture plant. As matter of fact it was completely oblivious of motion pictures. So was the whole world at that time. It was in the year 1871.

This horse was of Arabian blood—a genuine aristocrat. It belonged to Senator Leland Stanford of California, who built railroads, owned many square miles of grazing, farming and mineral lands and otherwise accumulated millions, which he spent in part on senatorial campaign expenses, founding a university and maintaining a pedigreed stock farm. Senator Stanford was a man of gentlemanly fads.

Opportunely, at this very time, controversy was rife in art circles concerning the exact position of a horse when trotting very fast. Some painters held that one of the horse's hoofs should always be on the ground. Others argued oppositely. Edward Muybridge was among those who debated. He was more methodical, perhaps, and more practical than artists are supposed to be. He went to Senator Stanford (some say the senator came to him) and suggested an experiment. For it he would use the senator's Occident, that being the name of a horse. If there was a trotter anywhere swift enough to pull all four feet off the ground at once in an onward burst of speed it was this same Occident.

So Occident was harnessed and driven out onto the track that was the pride of Stanford's farm. Muybridge, unconscious of the tremendous role he was playing, was there with his apparatus. The sky was a conventional blue. The lazy hum of early spring was in the air. The world lay half dozing, contented and altogether unobserving underneath a flood of California sunshine. It was a good enough day for men in their shirt sleeves to play at their hobbies but to think of serious business—never! So they proceeded leisurely about their arrangements, fixing this or that and quite unconsciously setting the trap that was to turn the amusement world "topsy turvy."

(To be continued next week)

Would Build \$6,000 High School at Yreka

The trustees of the Siskiyou Union high school have voted to submit the question of a new \$60,000 bond issue to the voters of the Siskiyou county high school district on November 4, the purpose of the proposed bonds being the construction of a new high school building at Yreka to replace the one burned last week.

There are 75 grammar school districts embraced in the Yreka school district and the general sentiment is in favor of bonding and rebuilding immediately.

E. D. Briggs has returned from a business trip to Portland and Astoria.

Golden West Coffee is "Just Right"

Poison Oak Now Looks for Victim

University of Oregon, Eugene, October 7.—At this time of the year when the changing tints of the leaves tempt one to gather them rather promiscuously for decorative purposes, it may be well to sound a warning against the poison oak, the foliage of which is often wonderfully beautiful. From the inquiries received at the State University it is evident that such mistakes are being made, and that there is a desire for information that will aid the gatherer to shun these dangerous plants.

The poison oak of the west (*Rhus diversiloba*), differs but little if any from the poison ivy (*Rhus toxicodendron*) of the east. The former has the habit of a shrub, while the ivy is a climbing vine. But often the so-called poison oak when it finds a support will climb like the poison ivy and has all the appearance of the plant of the eastern states. But it makes little difference by what name it is known; it is equally poisonous.

Leaves Like Those of Oak.
It gets the name of poison oak from the resemblance of its leaflets to the leaf of the oak.

The plant bears small white flowers in clusters and these produce white berries, which often remain on the branch after the leaves have fallen, and furnish a means of recognition.

In some localities it is so abundant as to interfere materially with the pleasures of picnics and outings. Its poisonous effects seem to be due to an oil secreted by the plant, but it is difficult sometimes to explain the susceptibility of some people who can hardly come into its environment or let its shadow fall upon them without being infected.

Treatments Are Discussed.
As to its treatment, far be it from me to risk any suggestion as to a universal panacea among the numberless remedies that have been used with apparent success. But experience has shown that what produces good results in one case may utterly fail in another.

Scientific experiments have seemed to show that the most effective treatment consists in removing the irritating oil from the skin, and for this nothing better has been found than a good washing with soap and water. Alcohol also absorbs the oil and may be used as a wash, or the alcohol may be saturated with sugar of lead. One part of hyposulphite of soda in three parts of water seems to be helpful in some cases. These may be used as preventives or as a treatment when the poison has manifested itself.

This is the precaution to be observed when walking in the fields or on hillsides: Avoid all shrubs and vines having compound leaves with three leaflets. If one is in any degree susceptible, immediately upon return let him wash thoroughly all parts of the skin that have been exposed with one of the washes above suggested or any which experience has taught is efficacious.

Ashland Has Many Students at O.A.C.

Senator H. Von der Hellen of Welles returned Sunday from Corvallis, where he attended a meeting of the board of regents of the Oregon Agricultural college. Figures introduced at the meeting showed that 1901 students are registered at the school, an increase of 25 per cent over last year.

Of this number 36 per cent are self-supporting, 33 per cent are half self-supporting and 10 per cent are partly so. There are 32 students from Jackson county enrolled, nearly half of these are from Ashland.

Many states of the Union are represented in the student body, California having an enrollment of 177.

John Anderson, a graduate of the Ashland high school of the class of 1915, who took a post-graduate course in teachers' training last year, left Wednesday for Wasco county, where he will teach a country school this term.

Mrs. J. F. Patty left Tuesday for a two months' trip to Manchester, Iowa, to visit her brother, who is ill, and other relatives.

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Resident Born Dealer

Paulserud & Barrett Offers \$3,000 for A Single Word

A \$3,000 Christmas present is the interesting prize that a well-known manufacturer is offering for one single word. The makers of the "Eveready" Flashlights are looking for a new name to take the place of the word "Flashlight," which they say has outlived its usefulness. Originally these lights merely "flashed," but nowadays the batteries will give hours of continuous light.

This contest is to be featured by our local dealer, who will distribute the contest blanks beginning October 7. The contest closes November 7 at midnight. Their dealers will make special window displays and demonstrations of Eveready lights during the week of October 7 to 14.

Jordan's electric shop handles the Flashlights here.

One well-known dealer in speaking of this contest mentioned the fact that it is not only open to everybody but that everyone has an equal chance, as the name has to be a "made-up" word such as "Kodak," or "Uneda," or "Tarvia." Consequently, even a boy or girl may be fortunate enough to suggest a short, easily spoken word that may prove to be the \$3,000 name. The contest blanks which the dealers will distribute October 7 will give all the details. Three thousand dollars is a great deal of money for one word, but the Every Ready people expect to spend millions of dollars advertising the new word if they get the right suggestion. Perhaps someone in this city will get the \$3,000 on Christmas day.

Phone job orders to the Tidings.

TRAIN SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1.

(Clip this out.)

Train No.	Arrive.	Leave.
11...	3:55 a.m.	4:00 a.m.
12...	1:50 a.m.	1:55 a.m.
13...	9:45 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
14...	7:30 a.m.	7:50 a.m.
15...	11:20 p.m.	11:45 p.m.
16...	5:30 p.m.	5:50 p.m.
17...	5:15 p.m.	Stops here
Odd numbers southbound		
Even numbers northbound.		

Pioneers Will Meet Here Next Year

The fortieth annual reunion of the Society of Southern Oregon Pioneers was held at the court house in Jacksonville October 5, with over 300 in attendance from all parts of the county, Ashland sending the largest delegation.

The address of welcome was given by Emil Britt, president of the society. The program rendered consisted of the following:

Prayer by Rev. Hutchinson.
Solo by George Andrews.
Violin solo by Lena Hanna, accompanied by Mrs. Rowell Hines.
Address by Miss Marian Towne.
Solo by Miss Bess Bryan.
Recitation by Miss Lulu Williams.
Auld Lang Syne by the assembly.
The oration by Miss Marian Towne, one of southern Oregon's distinguished native daughters, was very interesting and highly commendable. The principal theme of her address being "The Pioneer Mother." The morning session was concluded with the pioneer song by the assembly.

At 1 p. m. a sumptuous banquet was served at I. O. O. F. banquet hall by the Native Daughters' Cabin of Jacksonville.

At the afternoon session some very interesting reminiscences of early pioneer life in Oregon were related by Mr. Burnett, a pioneer of 1846 and a resident of Oregon for 70 years.

Obituaries on the death of the following members of the society were read: Mrs. Bertha Rupp, Peter Ogdan Applegate, Mrs. J. Huffer, John S. Herrin, John X. Miller and John W. Hillman (discoverer of Crater Lake), written by himself during his lifetime. In this connection was read his letter describing the discovery of the lake.

The committee on plans for building a historical building in the Ashland park were called on for a re-

everything about a rainy day seems to say to keep dry, to work in comfort wear the FISH BRAND REFLEX SLICKER \$3.
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port. Mr. Gore said they were not ready for a report.

Then came election of officers for the year. George W. Dunn was elected president and Mrs. Grainger of Ashland vice-president. The secretary holds over.

The meeting was then adjourned to meet in Ashland next year.

Watson Edits Farm Journal

W. W. Watson, formerly of Ashland but now residing in Medford, this week published the first edition of Farm and Orchard. The paper is devoted to the farm and orchard interests of the valley and will be invaluable aid to the farmers and orchardmen and interesting to the business men of the valley.

Mr. Watson has been doing this kind of writing for many years. Three thousand copies of the first edition were printed.

Lee Piffeld of Remington, Va., is visiting F. W. Shaw in this city.

Watch Your Step

Many people fail to realize that the common habit of coffee drinking may, sooner or later, handicap ability and hinder progress.

It is a scientific fact that coffee contains a harmful drug, caffeine, which with many through regular use, causes nervousness, headache, heart flutter, or other annoying ills.

The wise move is to quit coffee and use

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